



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

Wednesday, October 31, 2012

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (12-5153)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: Chairperson Eleanor R. Montaña, Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio, Commissioner Barbara Bigby, Commissioner Cheryl Grills Ph.D., Commissioner Anne S. Hill, Commissioner Donald S. Andrews and Commissioner Susan Burton

Call to Order. (12-5093)

Chairperson Montaña called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chairperson Montaña led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

1. Approval of the October 24, 2012 Minutes. (12-5094)

On motion of Commissioner Barbara Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, unanimously carried, the minutes of October 24, 2012 were approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

2. Chairperson's Report on various items for October 31, 2012. (12-5095)

Chairperson Montano led the conversation on securing a venue for the SBC annual Christmas luncheon. Commissioners decided to go to the San Antonio Winery in Los Angeles, California, on December 12, 2012.

Continuing her report, Chair Montano reemphasized that the Commission needs to make the jail/lockup inspections a priority over Group Homes, in that the Commission was established for that purpose. She continued that although the goal is to inspect the jail/lock ups at least every six months, the Commissioners will need to make more frequent inspections.

Commissioners Grills and Burton informed the Commission that they were both called into a meeting with Supervisor Ridley-Thomas last week where the Supervisor expressed his concern over SBC's silence regarding jail violence considering CCJV's findings and wanted to know why the Board has not received any complaints from SBC. Chair Montano responded that serious concerns are usually reported to the Supervisors.

Commissioner Burton further inquired from the Chair on how to proceed when someone comes to her with a complaint regarding safety issues in the jail/lockup. Chair Montano clarified that the Commissioners can conduct random inspections if there is a need to address immediate safety issue(s). However, the inspection must be coordinated through the Chair and the Commission. In such matters, the Chair may call for a special meeting to coordinate the inspection.

Commissioner Burton further expressed that she was concerned that even though the inspection findings during the visit to the Men's Central Jail (MCJ) were reported, nothing was done about the complaints. She cited a recent occurrence during her visit to MCJ where she noticed that older inmates were being subjected to abuse by young gang bangers who were housed in an area that was supposedly assigned as the senior dormitory. She stated that she observed one of the older inmate's jaw was broken. The finding was reported and nothing was done. She also expressed concern that the Commission still hasn't received the MCJ's telephone contract that was requested a few months back. After a brief discussion, the Commissioners expressed that their authorities as Commissioners are being undermined, the Commission is being restricted and the Sheriff is not taking the Commission's concerns seriously and they are not responsive to their complaints and requests.

Vice Chairperson Bacio reminded the Commissioners that Lieutenant Jason Skeen, Sheriff, was supposed to arrange for the Commissioners to inspect the recently moved Diabetic Ward at MCJ. The Commission will schedule a date to make unannounced inspection of the Diabetic Ward.

After a brief deliberation over the recommendation to invite some of CCJV's commissioners to attend a future SBC meeting, the Commission requested staff to prepare a letter for the Chair's signature to invite the CCJV Commissioners to attend the SBC meeting during the week of November 28, 2012 or the first week of December.

Commissioners Burton further informed the Commission that she would like to visit MCJ on November 6, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioner Grills to ensure that the inmates are allowed to vote. Chair Montano concurred and Commissioner Bigby may accompany both Commissioners if available.

3. Treasurer's Report for October 31, 2012. (12-5096)

Vice Chairperson Frank Bacio reported that the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund remains at \$501.58.

4. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports for October 31, 2012. (12-5097)

Ms. Jenny Kimbell, Commission Staff, presented the Commissioners with copies of the Sherriff's Department Inmate Welfare Fund Expenditure Summary of July 2011 to June 2012.

5. Review of Group Home Compliance Monitoring Audit Reports presented on October 31, 2012. (12-5098)

In Compliance:

- Commissioner Grills visited Cunningham's Group Home - Page 10 #3, on October 30, 2012.**
- Commissioner Burton visited Teen's Happy Home Foster Family Agency on October 20, 2012. Following Commissioner Burton's report, Chairperson Montano advised the Commissioners that inspections to foster family agencies are not the responsibility of the Commission and if they receive any foster family agency monitoring reports to return them to staff.**
- Chairperson Montano and Commissioner Andrews visited South Bay Bright Future - Page 25 #2, on October 29, 2012.**
- Chairperson Montano and Commissioner Andrews visited Aviva Center - Page 1 #3, on October 30, 2012.**

Not Available:

- Vice Chairperson Bacio visited Moore's Cottage - Page 28 #3 on, October**

24, 2012 and reported no one was home and he will return at a later

6. Commissioners Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from October 25, 2012 to October 30, 2012. (12-5099)

During the reporting period the following facility was reported as being in unsatisfactory condition:

- **Vice Chairperson Bacio and Commissioner Bigby visited Alhambra Courthouse on October 30, 2012 and reported that the floor needs to be replaced in the main cells on the second floor; the cells need painting, the vents for the heating and cooling system needs cleaning, and the elevator needs leveling.**

During the reporting period the following facility was visited but not inspected:

- **Commissioner Bigby visited Alhambra Courthouse on October 26, 2012 and was unable to conduct an inspection due to a use of force that was in progress.**

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

7. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (12-5101)

There were no matters presented for a future agenda.

Public Comment

8. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (12-5102)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

9. Adjournment for the meeting of October 31, 2012. (12-5103)

There being no further business, the meeting of October 31, 2012 was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.